

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-05 L-02

ACDA-05 NSAE-00 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06

TRSE-00 SAJ-01 OIC-02 EB-07 AEC-05 /074 W

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8990

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 6572

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, MNUC

SUBJECT: NOVEMBER 25 NPG STAFF GROUP MEETING

REF: A. STATE 259295

B. USNATO 6519

C. USNATO 6500

D. STATE 251041

E. STATE 253350

F. USNATO 6502

SUMMARY. AT NOVEMBER 25 MEETING, NPG STAFF GROUP (SG) DISCUSSED SCHEDULING OF DECEMBER NPG MINISTERIAL MEETING. SG REPS WELCOMED ADDITION OF BRIEFING ON THE STRATEGIC BALANCE TO DRAFT NPG MINISTERIAL AGENDA. SG REPS ALSO AGREED TO KEEP SELECTIVE EMPLOYMENT PLANNING ON THE DRAFT AGENDA. SG CHAIRMAN PROPOSED THAT NPG MINISTERS APPROVE THE COMMUNIQUE DURING THEIR MEETING, AND THAT NPG COUNTRIES PREPARE THE MINUTE AFTER THE MEETING AND APPROVE IT IN CAPITALS BY THE SILENCE PROCEDURE. NETHERLANDS REP THOUGHT THAT THE NDAC SHOULD MEET IN DECEMBER, BUT NO OTHER SG REPS SUPPORTED THIS VIEW. SG REPS URGED AN CONFIDENTIAL

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EARLY DECISION ON RESCHEDULING THE FIRST MEETING OF THE NPG TECHNOLOGY STUDY GROUP. END SUMMARY.

1. AT NOVEMBER 25 NPG STAFF GROUP (SG) MEETING, SG CHAIRMAN

(SHEARER) SAID HE EXPECTED THAT DPC PERMREPS WOULD DECIDE AT THEIR MEETING ON NOVEMBER 26 WHETHER THE NPG MINISTERIAL SHOULD BE HELD ON DECEMBER 19 OR DECEMBER 11. FRG REP (HUBER) SAID BONN THOUGHT THAT THE AFTERNOON OF DECEMBER 11 WOULD BE PREFERABLE BECAUSE THERE WOULD BE LESS TIME CONSTRAINT. CANADIAN REP (BECKETT) SAID HIS AUTHORITIES ALSO FAVORED THE AFTERNOON OF DECEMBER 11 WHICH, IN THEIR VIEW, WOULD BE LESS OF AN IN-

CONVENIENCE TO NON-PARTICIPATING MINISTERS. US REP (WOODWORTH) SAID PER REF A THAT HIS AUTHORITIES COULD AGREE TO EITHER TIME, BUT NOTED THAT AN NPG MEETING ON THE MORNING OF DECEMBER 10 WOULD MAINTAIN THE CUSTOMARY SEQUENCE OF NPG AND DPC MEETINGS. CANADIAN AND TURKISH REPS SAID THAT IF THE NPG MEETING WERE HELD ON THE MORNING OF DECEMBER 10, THEY HOPED THAT A FIXED TIME FOR THE BEGINNING OF THE DPC COULD BE ESTABLISHED SO THAT NON-NPG MINISTERS WOULD NOT BE LEFT IDLING IN THE HALLS WAITING FOR THE DPC TO BEGIN. (NOTE: MISSION OFFICER NOTED TO FRG REP AFTER THE SG MEETING THAT US HAD UNDERSTOOD PER DISCUSSIONS IN THE DRC ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22 (REPORTED REF B) THAT FRG FAVORED HOLDING THE NPG MEETING ON THE MORNING OF DECEMBER 10. HUBER SAID HE HAD RECEIVED HIS INSTRUCTIONS THAT MORNING, AND THAT ALTHOUGH HIS AUTHORITIES FAVORED HOLDING THE NPG MEETING ON DECEMBER 11 FOR THE REASON HE STATED IN THE SG MEETING, THEY WERE FLEXIBLE AND WOULD GO ALONG WITH DECEMBER 10 IF THAT IS WHAT OTHERS WANTED.)

2. SHEARER ASKED FOR COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT NPG AGENDA WHICH IS CIRCULATED (REF C). US REP SAID PER REF A THAT SECDEF WAS WILLING TO GIVE CUSTOMARY BRIEFING ON BALANCE OF STRATEGIC FORCES. SG REPS WELCOMED THIS SUBJECT AND AGREED TO ADD IT TO THE DRAFT AGENDA. US REP SUGGESTED THAT, BECAUSE OF THE LIMITED TIME AVAILABLE, IT MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE TO DROP AGENDA ITEM ON STATUS OF SELECTIVE EMPLOYMENT PLANNING (SEP). ALTHOUGH ACKNOWLEDGING TIME DIFFICULTIES, UK AND FRG REPS EMPHASIZED INTEREST OF THEIR AUTHORITIES IN THIS SUBJECT. SG CONSIDERED POSSIBILITY OF SEP BEING DISCUSSED EITHER IN CONNECTION WITH THE STRATEGIC BALANCE OR THE NUNN AMENDMENT, BUT NOT AS SEPARATE CONFIDENTIAL

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ITEM ON AGENDA. HOWEVER, SG FINALLY AGREED WITH A PROPOSAL BY FRG REP TO KEEP SEP ON THE DRAFT AGENDA, FOLLOWED BY PARENTHETICAL PHRASE QUOTE TIME PERMITTING UNQUOTE. THIS APPROACH WOULD ALLOW MINISTERS TO DISCUSS SEP IF THEY HAD TIME AND WISHED TO DO SO. IF THEY DID NOT, THE MNC'S COULD CIRCULATE THEIR STATEMENT ON THE SUBJECT AFTER THE MEETING.

3. SHEARER SAID SYG LUNS WOULD CIRCULATE SHORTLY A SLIGHTLY REVISED PO ON NPG FUTURE WORK PROGRAM. SHEARER SAID THAT THE IS ENVISAGED THAT A DRAFT NPG COMMUNIQUE COULD BE PREPARED IN ADVANCE AND BE READY FOR APPROVAL BY NPG MINISTERS AT THE MEETING. AS FOR THE NPG MINUTE, SHEARER THOUGHT BEST PROCEDURE WOULD BE FOR NPG COUNTRIES TO DRAFT IT AFTER REPEAT AFTER THE

MINISTERIAL MEETING AND APPROVE IT IN CAPITALS BY THE SILENCE
PROCEDURE. SG REPS AGREED THAT THESE SUGGESTIONS SEEMED
REASONABLE.

4. SHEARER CALLED ATTENTION TO FACT THAT TIME AND PLACE OF THE
NEXT NPG MEETING WAS INCLUDED ON THE FRAFT AGENDA, AND THAT
THIS QUESTION SHOULD BE CLARIFIED BEFORE THE NPG MEETING IN
DECEMBER.

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5. SHEARER NOTED THAT IN PAST THE NDAC MET BRIEFLY IN
DECEMBER TO REVIEW AND APPROVE AN NPG YEARLY ACTIVITIES REPORT.
HE SUGGESTED THAT THIS YEAR, TO KEEP THE RECORD STRAIGHT, THE
SG COULD PREPARE A YEARLY ACTIVITIES REPORT AFTER THE DECEMBER
NPG MEETING WHICH COULD BE APPROVED BY NDAC COUNTRIES BY THE
SILENCE PROCEDURE. SUCH AN APPROACH WOULD BE IN LIEU OF AN
NDAC MINISTERIAL MEETING. NETHERLANDS REP (VAN VALDEREN)
ASKED WHETHER PORTUGAL HAD WITHDRAWN FROM NDAC AS WELL AS NPG.
SHEARER SAID HE DID NOT KNOW. VAL VALDEREN SAID THE HAGUE
FAVORED HAVING AN NDAC MINISTERIAL MEETING FOR OPTICAL REASONS
IF PORTUGAL CONTINUES NDAC MEMBERSHIP. NO OTHER SG REPS
SUPPORTED IDEA OF HOLDING AN NDAC MEETING IN DECEMBER.

6. TURKISH REP (SUNGAR) ASKED IF SECRETARY SCHLESINGER WOULD
COMMENT ON THE NUCLEAR ASPECTS OF THE NUNN AMENDMENT DURING
THE DPAC. US REP SAID PER REF D THAT WE EXPECT SECRETARY
SCHLESINGER TO COMMENT ON ALL THREE ASPECTS OF THE NUNN
AMENDMENT DURING THE DPC.

7. US REP INFORMED SG THAT HE HAD FORWARDED THE US/UK/FRG
PHASE II PRELIMINARY REPORT TO THE IS FOR CIRCULATION TO NPG

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COUNTRIES. (NOTE: MISSION FORWARDED REPORT TO IS ON NOVEMBER 25 PER GUIDANCE IN PARA 4 OF REF E.). SHEARER SAID THAT SYG LUNS WOULD CIRCULATE THE REPORT SHORTLY WITH A COVER NOTE MAKING SOME SUGGESTIONS FOR HANDLING IN THE NPG. SHEARER SAID HE ANTICIPATED THAT THE REPORT MIGHT BE PLACED ON AN NPG PERMREPS AGENDA SOMETIME IN JANUARY. HE SUGGESTED THAT THE SG SHOULD RETURN TO THIS SUBJECT SOON.

8. ITALIAN REP (AZZARI) INQUIRED ABOUT US PLANS FOR RESCHEDULING THE FIRST FULL MEETING OF THE NPG TECHNOLOGY STUDY GROUP. US REP SAID THAT WASHINGTON WAS WEIGHING ALTERNATIVES, BUT HAD REACHED NO DECISIONS. HE SAID ALTERNATIVES APPEAR TO BE EITHER DURING THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 16 OR DURING JANUARY. HE POINTED OUT THAT THE DECEMBER ALTERNATIVE MAY BE DIFFICULT BECAUSE OF INVOLVEMENT BY STUDY GROUP MEMBERS IN MINISTERIAL FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES. SEVERAL REPS ACKNOWLEDGED POSSIBLE DIFFICULTIES IN SCHEDULING MEETING IN DECEMBER, BUT SAID THEY DID NOT WANT TO FORECLOSE POSSIBILITY YET. CANADIAN REP SUGGESTED, AND OTHERS AGREED, THAT IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO RESOLVE THIS QUESTION BY THE TIME OF NEXT SG MEETING ON DEC 2 SO THEIR AUTHORITIES COULD PROCEED TO MAKE APPROPRIATE PLANS. SG REPS ALSO URGED US TO CIRCULATE ITS PROMISED PAPERS ON TECHNOLOGIES TO BE COVERED BY THE STUDY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. COMMENT: MISSION PROVIDED COMMENTS ON RESCHEDULING FIRST MEETING OF FULL STUDY GROUP IN REF F. MISSION RECOMMENDS THAT US PROPOSE SPECIFIC DATES PRIOR TO DECEMBER 2. END COMMENT. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON GUIDANCE PRIOR TO DECEMBER 2. MCAULIFFE

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